

Freedom of Information request 103-21

Request

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FoISA) to request the following information from NHS Borders.

Please may you provide me with the following information:

- In each of the last 3 financial years what has been the cold chain loss of drugs and vaccines split between primary and secondary care?
- In each of the last 3 financial years what has been the gross expenditure on drugs and vaccines that require refrigeration?
- What are your current monitoring solutions for pharmacy fridges and freezers?
- What are your current monitoring solutions for ward and critical care area fridges?
- What are your current monitoring solutions for Health Board owned / managed community healthcare facilities?

Please provide the information in the form of email.

Response

1. NHS Borders Secondary Care do not distinguish between a break in the cold chain or expiration; the total write-off data is collated below.

2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
£477.58	£1,008.85	£1,579.83

NHS Borders Primary Care is comprised of multiple independent contractors and we do not have access to their data, therefore this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

2. The gross expenditure on drugs and vaccines that require refrigeration in NHS Borders Secondary Care in each of the last 3 financial years is below:

2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
£3,428,824.59	£3,144,274.19	£2,887,601.35

As NHS Borders Primary Care is comprised of multiple independent contractors and we do not have access to their data, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

3. NHS Borders Pharmacy uses the Comark electronic temperature monitoring system on all fridges, freezers and all ambient stock location locations.
4. NHS Borders wards store all appropriate items in a locked ward refrigerator which is manually checked and recorded twice daily.
5. NHS Borders Health Board owned facilities wards store all appropriate items in a locked ward refrigerator which is manually checked and recorded twice daily.

If you are not satisfied with the way your request has been handled or the decision given, you may ask NHS Borders to review its actions and the decision. If you would like to request a review please apply in writing to, Freedom of Information Review, NHS Borders, Room 2EC3, Education Centre, Borders General Hospital, Melrose, TD6 9BS or foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk.

The request for a review should include your name and address for correspondence, the request for information to which the request relates and the issue which you wish to be reviewed. Please state the reference number **103-21** on this request. Your request should be made within 40 working days from receipt of this letter.

If following this review, you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner and request an investigation of your complaint. Your request to the Scottish Information Commissioner should be in writing (or other permanent form), stating your name and an address for correspondence. You should provide the details of the request and your reasons for dissatisfaction with both the original response by NHS Borders and your reasons for dissatisfaction with the outcome of the internal review. Your application for an investigation by the Scottish Information Commissioner must be made within six months of your receipt of the response with which you are dissatisfied. The address for the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner is, Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife.